

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 04570 302121Z

62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8594

CONFIDENTIAL CARACAS 4570

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VE

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: STATE 098015

1. FOREIGN MINISTER HAS BEEN INFORMED AND UNDERSTANDS THAT REFERENCE CONTAINED IN PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (STATE 093044) REFERS TO PROSPECT OF PERSONAL ENCOUNTER DURING SOCIAL OCCASIONS. WE UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY PROBLEMS OF ARRANGING SPECIFIC PERSONAL AUDIENCE.

2. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, WE FEEL COMPELLED, MORE THAN EVER, TO DELIVER SUBSTANTIALLY ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S OTHER REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING PRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER, ACCORDING TO A NUMBER OF RESPECTABLE SOURCES, DOES NOT TRUST HIS OWN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AND DOES NOT FEEL HE CAN RELY ON HIS OWN EMBASSY. WE BELIEVE THAT MORE THAN "STANDING READY" TO ASSIST THE VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN ARRANGING THE DESIRED CONTACTS IS REQUIRED.

3. SUBJECT TO AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN'S CONCURRENCE, WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND IO YALE NEWMAN TO WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK AHEAD OF FOREIGN MINISTER TO ASSIST THE LATTER IN MAKING PRESS AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO INFORM CONFIDENTIAL

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FOREIGN MINISTER OF OUR PLANS IN THIS REGARD. PLEASE ADVISE.

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